

January 5, 1931

## FORMER GROTON EDITOR EXPIRES

W. R. VEITCH DIES AT TYNDALL,  
FOLLOWING ILLNESS OF  
PNEUMONIA

W. R. Veitch, for 28 years a newspaper man of this city, being owner and publisher of the Groton Herald, died at his home at Tyndall, S. D., last week, following a brief illness of pneumonia. He had not been in good health for some time, although friends at Groton were not aware of his fatal illness until word was received of his death.

Mr. Veitch was publisher of the Bon Homme County Register until a few days prior to his death, having sold the property recently to Mrs. Ike, a former owner of the newspaper. He went to Tyndall late in 1928, after having disposed of the Groton Herald to publishers of the Groton Independent, and the two papers were consolidated. He has been at Tyndall since leaving Groton.

### Born in New York

Mr. Veitch was born at Hammond, New York, April 28, 1875, and at the age of eight years, came with his parents to South Dakota in 1883, settling in Spink county near Ashton. He spent his boyhood days on the farm, receiving his first education from his father, because study in his early youth developed violent attacks of headaches. He gradually outgrew them, however, and completed his education at Valparaiso, Ind., emerging from an educational institution at that place with high scholastic honors. After completing his education, Mr. Veitch entered the newspaper business, having first obtained initial experience on a little weekly paper published at Mellette in the early days. He was at one time connected with a similar paper at Harriman, Tenn., later went to Crossville, and worked on a weekly paper there for a year or more and then came to Groton. He started the Groton Herald on January 1, 1900, and continued its successful publication until it was sold to the Independent in August, 1928. After the sale Mr. Veitch went to Tyndall and bought the Bon Homme County Register.

### Able Newspaper Man

The deceased was known as one of the ablest newspapermen in the state, a strong editorial writer and an able orator. The Herald was devoted to the cause of democracy, and through his reflections the learned discussions of the editor, not only on subjects pertaining to politics, but matters of time-interest to its readers. A subject dear to the heart of Mr. Veitch, although discussing it only to his most intimate friends, was theology, in which he was deeply interested, and his views and knowledge concerning it always commanded the attention and respect of theology's profound students.

His close association with the publication enabled him to interpret political affairs uncannily and correctly, and this, coupled with a pleasing style of writing at once elevated him to a commanding position politically. He was a power in democratic circles, and remained so until he lost interest in politics. At one time he was a candidate for state treasurer on the democratic ticket and served as postmaster of Groton under the administration of President Wilson.

### Fifty-Six Years Old

Mr. Veitch was 56 years of age at the time of his death. He was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. R. Veitch, of whom preceded him in death. He was married twice, the brides being sisters. His first wife, Miss Matie Veitch, died in 1918, after having been married since July 2, 1901, and his second marriage occurred when he was united to Miss Mable Wismer on August 26, 1919. No close relatives survive him, only an uncle and cousin in Spink county being the closest kin.